

MEANS OF A SCHEME
For Making the Considerable RIVERS of IRELAND
NAVIGABLE.

Abstracted into a Brief View
OF THE
Design, Method, and Expence of that Service.

THE Portion of this Service already Calculated (in Order to the Whole) is a Navigable In-Land Communication betwixt the Sea-Ports of *Dublin* and *Limerick*, And the like Navigable Canal to Cross the former thro' the Centre of the Kingdom from *Waterford* to *Sligo*, which are Four almost Equi-distant Ports of the Kingdom.

A Plan is Laid down Shewing the Extent and Situation of the Service, with the Method to be Pursued in the Execution; And thence an equal Prospect Given of several other Services of the same Nature that are equally Practicable in other Parts of the Kingdom, and have the same Right to be Provided for.

The Work is Distributed into several Apportionments, and the Charge of the Respective Dividends severally Ascertained; One or other whereof is Propos'd to be Carry'd on Yearly till the Whole be Gradually Accomplisht.

The Canals are to Carry Boats of Twenty Tuns Burthen, on a Level Stagnated Water as far as the Respective Tracts will possibly bear such Levels, and thence to fall by Locks of late Invention to any other lower Levels; and to from Level to Level into the Respective Tyde-Ways.

These Locks (except the very Shuts of the Flood-Gates) are to be Built of Hewn Stone, which takes away the Apprehension of Future Repairs: The Flood-Gates no Higher than 10 Foot shall Regulate Falls tho' of 50 or 100, which Avoids a present Multiplicity: And are to be Plac'd on separate Canals, because in the Main Channels they wou'd not only Injure Mills and Fisheries of all Kinds, and likewise Drown the Country Backward in Proportion to the Height of Water to be Rais'd by such Locks, but be themselves continually expos'd to the Violence of Floods and Inundations, and thereby Create an Expence in Future Repairs, as well as a Disappointment to Trade During such Intervals.

As the Service is of the Last Consequence, so the Expence may be made very Easy and Insensible to the Nation, by Adding but one seventh Part more (that is One Half Penny to Three Pence) to the Present Additional Duties, to be Set Apart for this Service; Which may be Levy'd by the same Officers in the same Method, and with no more Trouble than they already have: And may be Continued (with or without the Three Pence) for a limited Term to Answer these great Ends. Thus,

This Additional Half-Penny in 15 Years will Finish the present Scheme as far as 'tis already Calculated (or so much of the whole Service as shall be Equivalent thereto:) And, this being so Considerable and Extensive a Part of the Whole, 10 Years more may be Rationally Computed Sufficient to Answer the other Services of this Kind that shall hereafter be found Practicable and Important in other Parts of the Kingdom: And this Fund, being Paid by these Annual Instalments, is but equal to the common Interest of Two Years Whole Additional Duty; and that but for a Time.

This Fund may be Vested in Commissioners (Three or more of every County) whose Successors, in Case of Vacancies by Death, Resignation or other Removal,

Note, The Canal from Dublin to Limerick and so to the Ocean goes through the Counties of Dublin, Kildare, Wick, Wexford, Queen's County, Tipperary, Carlow, and Limerick and Kerry. From Waterford to Sligo, through the Counties of Kilkenny, Wexford, Carlow, Queen's County, Tipperary, Galway, Westmeath, Roscommon, Longford, Louth and so.

Chief Governor and Privy-Council or other Supreme Authority for the Time being.

This Additional Half-Penny being supposed to Amount to 10 or 12 Thousand Pounds *per Ann.* The Plan of the Service with the Respective Apportionments thereon Mark't, will shew how far this Sum is Computed sufficient to Carry any particular Branch or Dividend of the Work (as, Suppose, from *Limerick* to *At-lone*, from *Ross* to *Kilkenny*, &c. And the Commissioners at their Yearly Congress having Resolv'd on the particular Portion or Dividend of the Work which they shall Judge most Important and Preferable, shall Apply that Years Fund accordingly, and so from Year to Year till the Whole be Accomplish'd.

By this Method the Levies will be so Minute and Insensible, the Yearly Applications so Deliberate, and the Disbursements so Secure, That the Work may be Carry'd on by easy Degrees without any Hazard or sensible Burthen to the Country: The Nation will have their Money from Year to Year in their own Power and Disposal: And this Committee being Compos'd of an Equal Number of Representatives of the Respective Counties, all Parts of the Kingdom have an Equal Prospect and Security to be Accommodated in their Turn; And the Service that is not yet Spoken (nor perhaps thought) of, may possibly take Place of some that are already Trac'd and Ascertain'd, as it shall appear Preferable and Important to the Design of the Service.

The Projectors, to Vindicate their Scheme, and their fair Intentions to the Publick, are Ready, either to Undertake and Secure at their own Hazard any particular Dividend of the Work that shall be Assign'd them to begin with, according to the Estimate and Apportionments by them already made thereof; — Or, to Oversee and Carry on the Work on the Nations Account being Allow'd a Competent Consideration for such Service: Or Lastly to give Way to any Others who shall Demonstrate that they can either Mend the Method or Moderate the Expence of the Service.

And this, 'tis Hop'd, may serve to Vindicate the Projectors from any Disingenuous Practice in this Undertaking, who can neither Foresee what Branch or Division of the Work may be first or last Allotted 'em to Carry on; nor in what Capacity they may be Employ'd, nor even whether they shall be Employ'd at all in the Service.

The Humble
PETITION
OF
Stephen Coghlan, in Behalf
of Himself and Mortimer
Heylen.